

City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mr. Steven R. Phillips is being honored for his exceptional work and dedication to the City of Gainesville Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs after serving with distinction and integrity for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Prior to working at the city he was the Director of the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation, Inc. Mr. Phillips has worked in the parks and recreation field since 1978; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips has served in numerous elected leadership positions throughout his career with the City of Gainesville such as the Nature Operations Manager, the Assistant Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, the Interim Director and finally the Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips has volunteered on numerous committees, boards, advisory councils and oversight committees in support of community recreation over the past 43 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips helped create the Vision 2020 Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs (PRCA) Master Plan which addresses the current state of all city parks and facilities and identifies gaps throughout the City in amenities and in service levels; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips was instrumental in helping pass the Alachua County Wild Spaces Public Places eight year half cent sales tax in November 2016 that is dedicated to acquire and improve environmentally sensitive lands and to create, improve and maintain parks and recreational facilities outlined in the Vision 2020 PRCA Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Phillips was crucial in achieving the PRCA's Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) agency accreditation in October 2013 and re-accreditation in September 2018 making PRCA the third City of Gainesville department to achieve this high standard of service delivered to a municipal agency; and

WHEREAS, After over 43 years of public service, Mr. Phillips looks forward to spending more time with his friends and family, pursuing his passion for gardening and holiday ornament artistry and he will continue to find opportunities to support the protection and care of Florida's ecosystems.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim February 18, 2021 as

Steven R. Phillips Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in commending Mr. Steven R. Phillips for outstanding service, dedication and commitment during 35 years of service to our community in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, and on this day wishes him a long, healthy and fruitful retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 2nd day of February, A.D., 2021.


Lauren Poe
Mayor

